

SECRET

MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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PRIORITY

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FROM: USARMA VIENNA AUSTRIA

TO: DA WASH DC

NR: C-10

21522Z JAN 60

DA FOR ACS1

Recent newspaper articles have highlighted the discovery of 2 caches of arms in the former British zone of Austria. The stories go on to say that the British left these behind with the idea that they would be used for guerrilla warfare if and when a third world war broke out. On 21 Jan ARMA queried the British Attache on the validity of these claims. He stated that his office, and he personally, are not aware of the exact location of these caches. He, however, stated that he knew that the facts must be true because he knew an officer in the British Army who was stationed in Austria with the occupation troops, and had the mission of establishing such caches. I asked the British Attache what the official British position is. He stated that up to now the British had denied any knowledge of these caches. He further went on to state that it had been recommended of him and the Ambassador that the British must come clean on this and admit that these caches had been made. He also stated that he understood that the Americans had also made such caches here in Austria, and that British admission, although confined only to British actions, might cause further inquiries to be made of American authorities. He also stated he would keep ARMA informed of all British actions. ARMA knows of no such American caches here and will so state if queried. US Ambassador has been made aware of the British position by ARMA.

ACTION: ACS1

DA IN 277639

(21 JAN 60)

jpd/12

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PROHIBITED

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Waffenlager bei St. Veit a. d. Glan entdeckt

Unterirdische „Restbestände“ der britischen Besatzungsmacht

Klagenfurt, 18. Jänner

An der steirisch-kärntnerischen Grenze wurden, wie erst jetzt bekannt wird, im November zwei Bunker entdeckt, in denen sich große Waffen- und Proviantlager befinden. Jedes dieser unterirdischen Magazine enthält moderne Waffen, Konserven, Sanitätsmaterial, Lebensmittel und britische Uniformen für sechzig Mann. Die britische Besatzungsmacht soll die Bunker im Jahre 1952 angelegt haben.

Die unterirdischen Warenlager liegen in der Gegend des Waldkogels im Bezirk Sankt Veit an der Glan. Einheimische dürften die Bunker schon vor Monaten aufgespürt und einen Teil

der Waren mitgenommen haben. Jetzt erst wurde die Angelegenheit den Behörden bekannt, die nun damit beschäftigt sind, das gestohlene Gut sicherzustellen.

Ob die britischen Einheiten, die seinerzeit in Kärnten stationiert waren, die Ausrüstungsgegenstände nur vergessen oder ob sie sie bewußt zurückgelassen haben, weiß noch niemand. In Kärnten halten sich aber Gerüchte, daß in der gleichen Gegend noch mehrere andere Bunkerlager existieren. Im Frühjahr, wenn der Schnee geschmolzen ist, soll daher das ganze Gebiet mit Minensuchgeräten abgegangen werden.